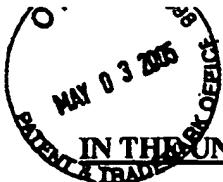


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

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Filed: April 30, 2001

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* * * * *

May 3, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited. A copy of the Supplementary European Search Report is also enclosed.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



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